

**OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS  
RENDERED BY THE INTER-  
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON  
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE**

*Edited by*

**FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.**  
Secretary to the Commission

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**OPINION 504**

Suppression under the Plenary Powers of the generic  
name *Planites* de Haan, 1825 (Class Cephalopoda,  
Order Ammonoidea)

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# INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

## COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 504

### A. The Officers of the Commission

*Honorary Life President* : Dr. Karl JORDAN (*British Museum (Natural History) Zoological Museum, Tring, Herts., England*).

*President* : (Vacant).

*Vice-President* : Senhor Dr. Afranio do Amaral (*Sao Paulo, Brazil*).

*Secretary* : Mr. Francis Hemming (*London, England*).

### B. The Members of the Commission

(arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election, as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology).

Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (*S. Paulo, Brazil*) (*Vice-President*) (1st January 1944).

Professor J. R. DYMOND (*University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada*) (1st January 1944).

Professor J. Chester BRADLEY (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (28th March 1944).

Professor Harold E. VOKES (*Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A.*) (23rd April 1944)

Dr. William Thomas CALMAN (*Coulsdon, Surrey, England*) (1st January 1947).

Professor Béla HANKÓ (*Békéscsaba, Hungary*) (1st January 1947).

Dr. Norman R. STOLL (*Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (1st January 1947).

Professor H. BOSCHMA (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) (1st January 1947).

Senor Dr. Angel CABRERA (*Eva Peron, F.C.N.G.R., Argentina*) (27th July 1948).

Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (*Secretary*) (27th July 1948).

Dr. Joseph PEARSON (*Tasmanian Museum, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia*) (27th July 1948)<sup>1</sup>

Dr. Henning LEMCHE (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*) (27th July 1948)

Professor Teiso ESAKI (*Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan*) (17th April 1950).

Professor Pierre BONNET (*Université de Toulouse, France*) (9th June 1950).

Mr. Norman Denbigh RILEY (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) (9th June 1950).

Professor Tadeusz JACZEWSKI (*Department of Systematic Zoology, Warsaw University, Warsaw, Poland*) (15th June 1950).

Professor Robert MERTENS (*Natur-Museum u. Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. M., Germany*) (5th July 1950).

Professor Erich Martin HERING (*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany*) (5th July 1950).

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Joseph Pearson retired from the Membership of the International Commission on 8th October, 1954.

## OPINION 504

### SUPPRESSION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF THE GENERIC NAME "PLANITES" DE HAAN, 1825 (CLASS CEPHALOPODA, ORDER AMMONOIDEA)

**RULING** :—(1) The generic name *Planites* de Haan, 1825 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) is hereby suppressed under the Plenary Powers for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy.

(2) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) *Planites* de Haan, 1825, as suppressed under the Plenary Powers in (1) above (Name No. 1137) ;
- (b) *Biplices* Siemiradzki, 1891 (invalid because not published in the nominative singular) (Name No. 1138).

(3) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with Name No. 1251 :—

*Orthosphinctes* Schindewolf, 1925 (gender : masculine) (type species, by original designation : *Ammonites tiziani* Oppel, 1863).

(4) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 1487 :—

*tiziani* Oppel, 1863, as published in the combination *Ammonites tiziani* (specific name of type species of *Orthosphinctes* Schindewolf, 1925).

## I. THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 28th February 1949, Dr. W. J. Arkell (*Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge University*) addressed a preliminary communication to the Office of the Commission on the subject of the possible use of the Commission's Plenary Powers for the suppression of the long-neglected generic name *Planites* de Haan, 1825 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) in order thereby to prevent the very serious confusion anticipated as being likely if this name were to replace the well-known name *Perisphinctes* Waagen, 1869. At the time of the receipt of the foregoing communication the whole of the resources of the Office of the Commission were being directed to the preparation and publication of the Official Records of the Session held by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in Paris in 1948 and of the corresponding Sessions then held by the Section on Nomenclature of the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology. It was therefore not possible at that time to make any progress with the consideration of proposals relating to individual names on which decisions by the International Commission were desired. In 1950, however, discussions took place between the Secretary and the applicant in regard to certain procedural problems involved in the present case. These were concluded in the autumn of that year, thus clearing the way for the submission

to the Commission by Dr. Arkell of the following definitive application on 9th December 1950 :—

**Proposed use of the Plenary Powers to suppress the name “*Planites*” De Haan, 1825, and to determine the use of the name “*Nautilus polygyratus*” Reinecke, 1818 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) (Jurassic)**

By W. J. ARKELL, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.

(*Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge University, Cambridge*)

1. The present application is concerned with the problem raised by the generic name *Planites* de Haan, 1825 (: 34). This case has been discussed in my Monograph on the Ammonites of the English Corallian Beds (1936—37 : xxxv—xxxvii, lxiv—lxv), where the recommendation was made that the name *Planites* de Haan should be suppressed in order to avoid the chaotic confusion which would otherwise be inevitable. The facts of this case are set out below :—

- (1) The generic name *Planites* de Haan, 1825 was applied in the first instance to all manner of ammonites from Lower Lias to Portland Stone, belonging to what are now regarded as many different families.
- (2) In form and vagueness of application this genus ranks with *Ammonites*, *Ostracites*, *Pectinites*, etc., and for nearly a century this name was ignored by all authors.
- (3) Buckman (S.) in 1913 (2 : iv) revived the name *Planites* de Haan by selecting as the type species of the genus so named the nominal species *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke, 1818 (: 73, pl. v, figs. 45—46). This species was believed by Buckman to be the only nominal species originally included by de Haan in *Planites* that had not already been assigned to some other genus. It was, however, a far-fetched selection, for among all the varied species assigned to *Planites* by de Haan, *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke was mentioned by him only in connection with *Planites plicatilis* (Sowerby), in the synonymy of which Reinecke's *polygyratus* was cited (de Haan, 1825 : 87).
- (4) The type specimen of the nominal species *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke is lost and the identity of the taxonomic species represented by this nominal species is a matter of uncertainty. There are two interpretations of this nominal species, the first by de Loriol (1877 : 61, pl. vii, figs. 1, 1a), which was accepted by Schindewolf (1926 : 512) and Spath (1931 : 444), the second by Wegele (1929 : 47, pl. i, fig. 6). The latter interpretation appears the more probable ; Wegele's figure of a supposed chorotype is reproduced in my monograph (1936 : pl. C, fig. 5).

2. Except from the standpoint of authors who accept an unwarrantable pulverisation of genera, *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke, in Wegele's interpretation certainly, and probably also in that of de Loriol, Schindewolf and Spath, belongs to a group at most subgenerically distinct from *Perisphinctes* Waagen, 1869. Thus, under a strict application of the *Règles*, the name *Planites* de Haan, having been published in 1825, would take precedence over the name *Perisphinctes* Waagen, 1869; the latter would thus either fall as a synonym of *Planites* or at best become the name of a subgenus of *Planites*.

3. The name *Perisphinctes* Waagen applies to one of the most important of all ammonite genera, of long geological range and of world-wide distribution. This generic name has probably been more widely used in geological literature during the past eighty years than has that of any other cephalopod genus. To discard it on the strength of Buckman's revival of the long forgotten name *Planites* would be monstrous and would certainly lead to widespread confusion. Accordingly I consider that the name *Planites* de Haan, 1825, should be suppressed under the Commission's Plenary Powers. I am of the opinion also that it is desirable that the generic name *Perisphinctes* Waagen, 1869, should be protected as soon as possible by being placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*. There is, however, a further problem in connection with this generic name which needs to be cleared up before it can be placed on the *Official List*. I am submitting to the Commission herewith a separate application on this subject.<sup>1</sup>

4. I consider further that the present opportunity should be taken to determine authoritatively the taxonomic species which is to be accepted as that represented by the nominal species *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke, for the name *polygyratus* is widely used and extremely well known and it is highly desirable that the present state of confusion and doubt regarding the manner in which this name should be used should be brought to an end with as little further delay as possible. I accordingly recommend that the Commission should make use of the extension of the Plenary Powers granted to it by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology in Paris in 1948 for the purpose of determining how the *Règles* should be applied in cases where it was doubtful to what species a given name should be held to apply (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 324), and should, under the foregoing powers, designate the supposed chorotype figured by Wegele to be the figure by which the nominal species *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke is to be interpreted. So interpreted, *N. polygyratus* would be referable to the genus *Biplices* Siemiradzki, 1891 (: 63), if it were not for the fact that that name does not comply with

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<sup>1</sup> The name *Perisphinctes* Waagen, 1869, has since been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 303.

the requirements of Article 8 and is, in consequence, invalid ; in these circumstances *N. polygyratus*, defined as suggested above, would be referable to *Orthosphinctes* Schindewolf, 1925 (: 324), the type species of which by original designation is *Ammonites tiziani* Oppel, 1863 (: 246) (which is also the type species of *Biplices* Siemiradzki, by selection by Buckman in 1921 (3 : 31)). In my view, *Orthosphinctes* Schindewolf is a subgenus of *Perisphinctes* Waagen. In view of the connection of the generic name *Orthosphinctes* with the problem discussed in the present application, I suggest that it should be placed on the *Official List*.

5. For the reasons set forth in the present application, I request the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature :—

(1) to use its Plenary Powers:—

(a) to suppress the generic name *Planites* de Haan, 1825, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy ;

(b) to direct that the trivial name *polygyratus* Reinecke, 1818 (as published in the combination *Nautilus polygyratus*) is to be held to apply to the species represented by the specimen from Pappenheim in Franconia figured in 1929 by Wegele (L.) as figure 6 on plate 1 in volume 72 of *Palaeontographica* in a paper entitled “Stratigraphische und faunistische Untersuchungen im Oberoxford und Unterkimmeridge Mittelfrankens” ;

(2) to place the undermentioned generic names on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* :—

(a) *Planites* de Haan, 1825 (as proposed to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers under (1)(a) above) ;

(b) *Biplices* Siemiradzki, 1891 (invalid because not formed in accordance with the provisions of Article 8) ;

(3) to place the name *Orthosphinctes* Schindewolf, 1925 (gender of generic name : masculine) (type species, by original designation : *Ammonites tiziani* Oppel, 1863) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* ;

(4) to place the under-mentioned trivial names on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* :—

(a) *polygyratus* Reinecke, 1818 (as published in the combination *Nautilus polygyratus*) (as proposed to be determined under the Plenary Powers under (1)(b) above) ;

- (b) *tiziani* Oppel, 1863 (as published in the combination *Ammonites tiziani*) (type species of *Orthosphinctes* Schindewolf, 1925).

#### References :

- Arkell, W. J., 1935—1948. "A Monograph on the Ammonites of the English Corallian Beds" (Palaeontographical Soc.)
- Buckman, S. S., 1909—1930. "Yorkshire Type Ammonites"
- Haan, G. De, 1825. "Specimen Philosophicum inaugurale, exhibens Monographiam Ammoniteorum et Goniatiteorum . . ."
- Loriol, P. De, 1876—1878. "Monographie paléontologique des Couches de la Zone à *Ammonites tenuilobatus* de Baden (Argovie)", *Mém. Soc. pal. Suisse* 3—5
- Oppel, A., 1863. "Über jurassische Cephalopoden", *Pal. Mittheil. Mus. Bayer.-Staates* 3 : 246
- Reinecke, D. J. C. M., 1818. "Maris protogaei Nautilus et Argonautes . . ."
- Schindewolf, O. H., 1925. "Entwurf einer Systematik der Perisphincten", *Neues Jahrb. für Min.* 52 (Beil.) : 324
- , 1926. "Zur Systematik der Perisphincten", *Neues Jahrb. für Min.* 55 (Beil.) : 495—517
- Siemiradzki, J. von, 1891. "Fauna Kopalna warstw Oxfordzkichi i Kimerydzkich" : 63 (Krakowie)
- Spath, L. F., 1931. "Revision of the Jurassic Ammonite Fauna of Kachh (Cutch)", Part 4. *Pal. indica* (n.s.) 9, Mem. 2
- Waagen, W., 1869. "Die Formenreihe des *Ammonites subradiatus*". Benecke's *Geogn. Pal. Beiträge* 2(2) : 181—256
- Wegele, L., 1929. "Stratigraphische und faunistische Untersuchungen im Oberoxford and Unterkimmeridge Mittelfrankens", *Palaeontographica* 71 : 119 ; 72 : 1

## II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

**2. Registration of the present application :** Upon the receipt of Dr. Arkell's preliminary enquiry in 1949 the question of the



suppression under the Plenary Powers of the generic name *Planites* de Haan, 1825 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 402.

**3. Publication of the present application :** The present application was sent to the printer on 15th December 1950 and was published on 4th May 1951 in Triple-Part Part 6/8 of Volume 2 of the *Bulletin in Zoological Nomenclature* (Arkell, 1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 2 : 194—197).

**4. Issue of Public Notices :** Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 4th May 1951 (a) in Triple-Part 6/8 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the part in which Dr. Arkell's application was published) and (b) to the other prescribed publications. In addition, such Notice was given to a number of general zoological serial publications and to certain palaeontological serials in Europe and America.

**5. Comments Received :** During the Prescribed Six-Month Waiting Period following the publication of the present application in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* one comment was received. This was a note of support by Dr. Helmut Hölder (*Geologisch-Paläontologisches Institut der Universität Tübingen*) which was transmitted to the Office of the Commission by Professor Dr. Robert Mertens (*Natur-Museum u. Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a.M.*) In addition, after the close of the Prescribed Waiting Period, a communication intimating the support, by a majority, of the Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America was received from Professor G. Winston Sinclair, at that time Chairman of the above Committee. The comments so received are reproduced in the immediately following paragraphs.

**6. Support by Helmut Hölder (Geologisch-Paläontologisches Institut der Universität Tübingen, Germany) :** On 28th October

1915 there was received in the Office of the Commission the following note of support from Dr. Helmut Hölder (*Geologisch-Pälaontologisches Institut der Universität Tübingen, Germany*) :—

Den Antragen Arkell's auf Suspension der Regeln sowie den vorgeschlagenen type species ist im Interesse einer Regelung der verworrenen Ammoniten-Nomenklatur und -Taxonomie im allgemeinen zuzustimmen. Besonders zu begrüßen ist der Schutz der Gattungsnamen *Arietites* und *Perisphinctes* gegenüber *Ammonites* und *Planites* sowie der Schutz von *Sphaeroceras* und *Phylloceras*.

. . . . .

Ähnlich liegt der Fall bei *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke, der nach Annahme von Arkell's Vorschlag etwa als "*Perisphinctes polygyratus* Rein.-Wegele" zu bezeichnen wäre. Referent ist hier allerdings der Ansicht, dass diese stratigraphisch wenig bedeutsame Artbezeichnung als nomen dubium besser ganz zu streichen wäre. Denn gerade die vielfache und vieldeutige Verwendung des Namens scheint seiner genau fixierten Anwendung in der künftigen Literatur hinderlich zu sein.

Die vorgeschlagene Kennzeichnung nachträglicher Fixierung erscheint dort erforderlich, wo diese Fixierung einer nomenklatorisch schutzbedürftigen Artbezeichnung gilt, die von ihrem Autor unbestimmt umrissen oder auf eine nicht spezifische bzw. andersspezifische Abbildung gegründet wurde. Wo dagegen eine nachträgliche Fixierung der *intentione auctoris* entspricht, ist solche Kennzeichnung weniger notwendig.

**7. Support by the Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America :** On 9th April 1952 there was received a large number of letters commenting on various applications previously published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* from Professor G. Winston Sinclair (then of the *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S.A.*) Chairman of the Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America. Included among these was a letter reporting that the members of the Joint Committee supported the application relating to the name *Planites* de Haan, 1825, by six votes to five. The foregoing letter was dated 6th February 1952, and its late receipt was apparently due to a decision to defer the despatch to the Commission of the letters containing comments by members

of the Joint Committee until all the letters in question had been prepared. By the date on which this letter was received the Prescribed Waiting Period in respect of the present case had expired but as the Voting Paper on it had not then been prepared, it was possible to include in that Voting Paper a reference to Professor Sinclair's letter :—

The Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America has considered the proposal in regard to *Planites* de Haan, and I wish to inform you that, being polled, they voted : To support the petition (six) :—(1) J. Marvin Weller ; (2) Bobb Schaeffer ; (3) Bryan Patterson ; (4) Katherine V. W. Palmer ; (5) John B. Reeside, Jr. ; (6) R. C. Moore. To oppose the petition (five) :—(1) Don L. Frizzell ; (2) A. Myra Keen ; (3) Siemon W. Muller ; (4) John W. Wells ; (5) G. Winston Sinclair.

**8. No individual objections received :** No objection to the action proposed in the present case was received from individual specialists, the only objection of any kind received being that expressed by the votes cast by the minority of the members of the Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America, as recorded in the communication from the Joint Committee reproduced in paragraph 7 above.

### III.—THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

**9. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(53)3 :** On 2nd January 1953, a Voting Paper (V.P.(53)3) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, "the proposal relating to the generic name *Planites* de Haan, 1825, as set out in Points (1) to (4) in paragraph 5 on page 106 of Volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*" [i.e. in the paragraph numbered as above in the paper reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

**10. The Prescribed Voting Period :** As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 2nd April 1953.

**11. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(53)3 :** At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(53)3 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twelve (12) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Lemche ; Hering ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Dymond ; Esaki ;  
Bonnet ; Riley ; do Amaral ; Hankó ; Cabrera ;  
Hemming ; Boschma ;

(b) *Negative Votes, three (3) :*

Vokes ; Jaczewski ; Stoll ;

(c) *On Leave of Absence, one (1) :*

Mertens ;

(d) *Voting Papers not returned, one (1) :*

Pearson.

**12. Declaration of Result of Vote :** On 3rd April 1953, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(53)3,

signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 11 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

**13. Postponement for further consideration of the problems arising in connection with the name "Nautilus polygyratus" Reinecke, 1818 :** On 11th December 1957, Mr. Hemming as Secretary executed the following Minute (a) withdrawing for further consideration the problems arising in connection with the interpretation of the nominal species *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke, 1818, and (b) directing that subject to (a) above, the decision in regard to the generic name *Planites* de Haan, 1825, and associated names taken by the International Commission by its vote on Voting Paper V.P.(53)3 be promulgated forthwith :—

**Postponement for further consideration of the proposals relating to the specific name "polygyratus" Reinecke, 1818, as published in the combination "Nautilus polygyratus" submitted by Dr. W. J. Arkell simultaneously with his proposals regarding the generic name "Planites" de Haan, 1825**

MINUTE by FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature)

Following the close of the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, consideration was given to the question of preparing an *Opinion* for the purpose of giving effect to the decision taken by the Commission in April of that year by its vote on Voting Paper V.P.(53)3, relating to the generic name *Planites* de Haan, 1825, and to the names of certain other taxa belonging to the Order Ammonoidea of the Class Cephalopoda. In one respect the situation as regards the foregoing case had been altered by the decision taken by the Copenhagen Congress to recognise the concept of neotype, for it now became necessary to consider whether it would be preferable that a neotype should be designated for the nominal species *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke, 1818, rather than that, as proposed in the application submitted in this case, the interpretation of that nominal species should be linked with a figure published by Wegele in 1929 based upon a specimen obtained at Pappenheim in Franconia.

2. Accordingly, efforts were made by the Office of the Commission, first, to ascertain whether the specimens figured by Wegele were still in existence and, second, to ascertain whether Reinecke's original material was extant. The investigations sounder taken were laborious, involving extensive searches in collections in different parts of Germany where the material in question or part of it might still be preserved. In this connection the grateful thanks of the Commission are to :— Professor Dr. O. Seitz (*Amt. für Bodenforschung, Hanover*) ; Dr. R. Dehm (*Ludwig-Maximilians Universität München, Institut für Paläontologie und historische Geologie, München*) ; Dr. O. F. Geyer (*Geologisch-Paläontologisches Institut der Technischen Hochschule, Stuttgart*).

3. As a result of the consultations described above, it has now been clearly established (a) that the Reinecke material has been lost, and (b) that the Wegele material was destroyed during the war. In these circumstances there is clearly no possibility of designating a specimen from the first of the above sources to be the lectotype, or from the second of those sources, to be the neotype of the nominal species *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke. On the other hand, there appears to be general agreement that it is desirable that, as the foregoing name has been known in the literature for over a hundred years, steps should be taken as soon as possible to place the interpretation of Reinecke's species upon a firm and unassailable foundation. Discussions as to the possible designation of a specimen from Reinecke's *locus typicus* are proceeding between the specialists concerned and it is anticipated that in due course proposals on this subject will be submitted to the Commission for consideration.

4. In the meantime it is necessary to examine the position as regards the remaining portions of the application submitted by Dr. Arkell, and, in particular, to consider the question of promulgating the decision taken by the Commission in 1953 to use its Plenary Powers to suppress the generic name *Planites* de Haan, a decision, the importance of which has recently been again strongly urged by Dr. Geyer in the consultations described in paragraph 2 of the present Minute. In the original application submitted by Dr. Arkell the *Planites* problem occupied the principal place, that raised by the interpretation of the nominal species *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke having been of secondary importance. In these circumstances I am of the opinion, as Secretary, that the promulgation of the Commission's decision on the *Planites* portion of Dr. Arkell's application should no longer be delayed by reason of the difficulties involved in the matter of the interpretation of the nominal species *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke. I accordingly hereby direct :—

- (1) that the proposals relating to the specific name *polygyratus* Reinecke, 1818, as published in the combination *Nautilus polygyratus*, included in the application regarding the generic

name *Planites* de Haan, 1825, be withdrawn for further consideration by specialists in the group concerned, the Registered File Z.N.(S.) 1289 to be opened for this purpose.

- (2) that, subject to (1) above, the decision taken by the Commission by its vote on Voting Paper V.P.(53)3 on the proposal bearing the Registered No. Z.N.(S.) 402, relating to the name *Planites* de Haan and associated names be promulgated in an *Opinion* forthwith.

**14. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present "Opinion" :** On 12th December 1957, Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(53)3, subject to the omission therefrom of the portion relating to the name *Nautilus polygyratus* Reinecke, 1818, withdrawn from the scope of the said vote for further consideration in accordance with the directions given in the Minute executed by the Secretary on 11th December 1957, the text of which has been reproduced in the immediately preceding paragraph of the present *Opinion*.

**15. Original References :** The following are the original references for the names placed on *Official Lists* and *Official Indexes* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

*Biplices* Siemiradzki, 1891, *Fauna Kopalna warstw Oxfordzkich i Kimerydzkich* : 63

*Orthosphinctes* Schindewolf, 1925, *N. Jahrb. f. Min. Beil.-Bd.* 52 (B) : 2, 324

*Planites* de Haan, 1825, *Specimen phil. Mon. Ammon. Goniatic.* : 34  
*tiziani*, *Ammonites*, Oppel, 1863, *Pal. Mitt. Mus. Bayer.-Staates* 1 (3) : 246

**16. Family-Group-Name Aspect :** No family-group-name problem arises in the present case. The name *Planites* de Haan, 1825, if it had not been suppressed under the Plenary Powers by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*, would have been a senior subjective synonym of *Perisphinctes* Waagen, 1869 (a name

placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 303). That genus is the type genus of the family-group taxon PERISPHINCTINAE Steinman, 1890, the name of which was placed on *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Direction* 14.

17. At the time of the submission of the present application the name applicable to the second portion of a binomen was "trivial name". This was altered to "specific name" by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, which at the same time made corresponding changes in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of names of this category. These changes in terminology have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

18. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

19. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Five Hundred and Four (504) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Twelfth day of December, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Seven.

*Secretary to the International Commission  
on Zoological Nomenclature*

**FRANCIS HEMMING**